

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1185  
By Hargett

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Marcus D. Pohlmann  
upon his induction into the Mock Trial Coaches  
Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause in its deliberations to recognize those outstanding educators who, through success in competition, bring great honor to the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy educator is Marcus D. Pohlmann, professor of political science at Rhodes College in Memphis, who was one of four individuals inducted into the newly established Mock Trial Coaches Hall of Fame of the American Mock Trial Association; a ceremony was held in Des Moines, Iowa, on April 7, 2006, to recognize these new inductees; and

WHEREAS, originally from Iowa, Mark Pohlmann completed his undergraduate work at Cornell College and his graduate work at Columbia University; he received his PhD in 1976, after completing his dissertation under Charles V. Hamilton and Demetrios Caraley; and

WHEREAS, during the last thirty years, Professor Pohlmann taught political science at Bates College in Maine, The College of Wooster in Ohio, and Arkansas State University before taking his current position at Rhodes College. He was chairman of Wooster's Urban Studies Program, he directed Arkansas State's Master of Arts in Political Science Program, and he has chaired the Department of Political Science at Rhodes College, where he has taught since 1986; he has also served as a Pre-Law advisor, coached soccer and basketball for the past fifteen years, and refereed basketball; and

WHEREAS, Mark Pohlmann has served as a Research Associate at the Metropolitan Applied Research Center and as a consultant for Media and Society Seminars, both in New

York City; he was the first political scientist to teach in the Soviet Union as a Fulbright Senior Lecturer; and

WHEREAS, a prolific author as well as a gifted lecturer, Professor Pohlmann's writing has appeared in *Political Science Quarterly*, *The Journal of Politics*, *The Journal of Urban Affairs*, *Urban Affairs Quarterly*, *The Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare*, and *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, as well as in *National Forum*; and

WHEREAS, he has also served as referee for an even broader array of such journals, and is the author of six books: *Racial Politics at the Crossroads* (University of Tennessee, 1996); *Governing the Postindustrial City* (White Plains: Longman, 1992); *Black Politics in Conservative America* (White Plains: Longman, 1992); *Political Power in the Postindustrial City* (New York: Stonehill, 1986); *Landmark Congressional Laws on Civil Rights* (2002); and a six-volume series on *African-American Political Thought* (2003); and

WHEREAS, as recent President-Elect for the American Mock Trial Association, Mark Pohlmann will assume the Presidency in June for a two-year term; founded in 1985, the American Mock Trial Association gives undergraduate students an opportunity to learn firsthand about the work of trial attorneys, understand the judicial system, develop critical thinking skills, and enhance communication skills; and

WHEREAS, Mock Trial at Rhodes is an academic activity designed to challenge students who are interested in law, debate, or other forms of forensics; a team consists of six to eight members with a captain, an attorney coach, and an educator coach; and

WHEREAS, the inter-collegiate circuit includes invitational tournaments held across the country throughout the fall and into early spring, with Rhodes' annual Blues City Challenge among the premiere invitationals; the National Championship is held each spring; and

WHEREAS, Professor Pohlmann has served as Coach of the Intercollegiate Mock Trial Team at Rhodes since 1987, when he founded the Mock Trial Program at Rhodes. The college won National Championships in 1990, 1991, 1994, and 1995, and was a runner-up in 1997, 1999, and 2001; the academic excellence attained by this outstanding Mock Trial Program is a tribute to the hard work and dedication of the coaches and team members alike; and

WHEREAS, Mark Pohlmann is a devout and active member of the Neshoba Unitarian Church, which he has served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, his professional and academic accomplishments notwithstanding, Mark Pohlmann is most grateful for the love and support of his wife, Barbara, whom he married in 1972; his son, Justin; and his parents, Clement and Lois Pohlmann; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this legislative Body should pause to commend the superlative talent and effort of the educator chosen by the American Mock Trial Association to be inducted as a Hall of Fame member; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and recognize Mock Trial Coaches Hall of Fame inductee Professor Marcus D. Pohlmann of Rhodes College, congratulate him upon his inclusion into this prestigious arena, commend him for his extraordinary contributions to the lives of his devoted students, and wish him well in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.